GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3823
ANSWERED ON:16.05.2006
SETTLEMENT OF BORDER DISPUTES AMONGST NE STATES
Choudhary Shri Nikhil Kumar;Murmu Shri Hemlal;Shakya Shri Raghuraj Singh

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received representations/letters from various associations, political parties and other, especially from Greater Cooch Behar Pepoles` Association for settlement of Centre-State problems and encouraging balanced socio-economic development in concerned zones;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the work done by Inter-State Councils, Zonal Councils and related Commissions in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT)

(a) to (c): Representations were received from Greater Cooch Behar People`s Association alleging that merger of erstwhile Cooch Behar State with West Bengal from 1.1.1950 is illegal and unconstitutional and demanding (i) Formation of Greater Cooch Behar State Comprising the Cooch Behar, Jalpaiguri, Darjeeling, North and South Dinajpur, districts of West Bengal and undivided Goalpara district of Assam (ii) Withholding of election to Legislative Assembly of West Bengal in Cooch Behar area (iii) Implementation of promises made in the merger agreement between the Maharaja of Cooch Behar and the Government of India, and (iv) Formation of a caretaker Ministry for administration of Cooch Behar. These maters have not been brought before the Inter-State Council, Zonal Council or any other Council/Commission.